

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD IN THE

CARROLLTON BAPTIST CHURCH,

PICKENS COUNTY, ALA.,

ON THE

22d and 24th September, 1860.

CARROLLTON:

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1860.



CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, who, on producing their credentials, shall be entitled to seats.

2. The members thus chosen and convened, shall be known by the name of "The Union Baptist Association:" which shall have the privilege of engaging in benevolent operations, for the purpose of advancing the Redeemer's Kingdom, and the furtherance of Christ's cause on earth—in this the churches and individual members are left free; and the giving or withholding shall not be a bar to fellowship.

3. The Association shall usurp no authority over the churches in our union, nor infringe any of their internal rights; but shall merely be considered an advisory council, in all matters relating to their internal concerns; nevertheless, it becomes necessary, in some cases, to have a uniform rule of procedure, viz: If one church commit an offence against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender for satisfaction: if she fail of success, she shall call in the aid of two or more churches in our union, to assist in laboring for satisfaction, and if final satisfaction, in the opinion of the helps thus called, be not obtained, the aggrieved may bring the case before the Association, which shall be taken up and decided upon according to its merits. If a serious difference should arise in an individual church, which upon due labor, cannot be reconciled, she shall call in aid from two or more sister churches, to assist in the work, and if a reconciliation be not effected, the helps so called, or the church may bring the case before the Association, to be acted upon according to its merits; but the Association shall take no notice of any case of the above kind, unless a due course of procedure shall have been previously pursued according to the economy of the church discipline as found in the Scriptures of the New Testament.

4. The Association shall have power to exclude any church from her union who shall violate the Constitution, or shall depart from the orthodox principles of the Gospel.

5. Each church in our union shall send to every annual session of the Association, written communications, specifying the names of their delegates, their number in fellowship, the number of white males, white females, colored members, the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, restored, or deceased since the last session, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

6. Every church in the union shall be entitled to three delegates.—Should any church fail to represent herself she shall state her reasons in her next letter to the Association.

7. New churches and churches dismissed from other Associations, may be admitted into our union, by delegates bearing petitionary letters. If upon due examination they be found orderly and orthodox, the moderator shall manifest their reception by giving their delegates the right hand of christian fellowship.

8. The Association when convened, shall be governed by regular and proper rules of decorum, which she is authorized to form and amend, according to her own views.

9. At every meeting of the Association, a Moderator shall be appointed by, and from the delegates present, whose duty it shall be to see that the rules are strictly observed, and to take the voice of the Association on all subjects legally introduced. A Clerk shall also be appointed in like manner, whose duty it shall be to take proper and correct minutes of the proceedings. The clerk shall be treasurer, ex-officio, of this union.

10. The Association shall furnish the churches of our union with the minutes of every session.

11. Every query sent by a particular church, must be included in her letter, certifying that she has endeavored to reconcile it, but failed. In such a case the Association shall take it under consideration, and the voice of a majority shall be considered an advisory answer, which shall be entered on the minutes.

12. Queries which immediately concern the union, or state of the churches at large, sent by a particular church, or introduced by a proper motion, shall be taken up and decided as soon as practicable.

13. Any church in our union, having a preacher whom she deems worthy of ordination, shall call a presbytery of ministers from sister churches to officiate in the work; all presbyteries, in the ordaining of ministers or deacons, and in the constituting of churches, shall be governed by the Articles of Faith adopted by this Association.

14. The Association shall have a fund, supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches; all monies thus contributed, shall be transmitted from the churches, by their delegates, and paid over to the committee on finance: which committee shall be annually appointed, whose duty it shall be to receive in charge all monies sent to the Association, dispose of the same agreeably to order, and make a fair and circumstantial report.

15. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of this Association to keep a regular file of the printed minutes of every session.

16. The Association shall not adjourn any session until she shall have finished all the business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

17. This Association shall correspond with such other Associations as may be agreed on while in session.

18. The Association shall, in all cases, (except to amend the Constitution,) be governed by a majority of the members present.

19. The minutes of the Association shall be read, and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the session rises.

20. The Association shall, at each session, appoint one of her members to preach an introductory sermon at her next session; also, one or more to preach upon subjects of Benevolence, as she may think proper; and one to prepare a Circular Letter.

21. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any session of the Association when two-thirds of her members present shall deem it necessary.

Articles of Faith.

ARTICLE 1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.—*Deut.* iv, 39; 1 *Cor.* viii, 6; and 1 *John*, v, 7.

2. We believe that the Scriptures, comprizing the Old and New Testament, are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.—2 *Tim.* iii, 16; *Rom.* xv, 4; and iii, 2.

3. We believe that Adam, by sin, fell from the state of purity in which he was created, that all his posterity are degenerate, and that all human nature is corrupt and depraved.—*Rom.* iii, 12; *Gen.* i, 26-28; iii, 6-8.

4. We believe that man is utterly unable, by his own free will and ability, to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature.—*Heb.* ix, 22-23; 1 *Peter*, ii, 24; and iii, 18.

5. We believe in the doctrine of Election, and that God chose his people in Christ, before the world began.—*Eph.* i, 3-5; *Titus*, i, 1-2.

6. We believe in the Covenant of Redemption, and Salvation by Grace, entered into by the Sacred Three, in behalf of the elect, on whom grace and glory were settled forever, in Christ, their covenant head.—*Psalms*, lxxxix, 2-4; and xxvii, 37; *Eph.* i, 3-5; 2 *Tim.* i, 9.

7. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, by the imputed righteousness of Christ only, and that they receive pardon and reconciliation through him.—*Rom.* iii, 22-26.

8. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated, and sanctified by the influence and operation of the Holy Spirit.—1 *Peter*, i, 2; *Mat.* iii, 17.

9. We believe that Saints shall be preserved in Grace, and that none of them shall be lost.—*John*, x, 27-29; *Rom.* viii, 31-39; 2 *Tim.* i, 9.

10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and the general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous, and punishment of the wicked, will be eternal. *Job*, xix, 25-27; *John*, v, 28-29; *Matt.* xxv, 31 34-41-46.

11. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are Ordinances of Jesus Christ; that true believers are the only fit subjects of Baptism; that immersion of the subject in water is the Apostolic mode; and that none but regularly Baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's table.—*Matt.* iii, 6-16; *Mark*, i, 9; xvi, 16; *John*, iv, 1-2; *Acts*, ii, 38-41; viii, 12; xviii, 8; *Luke*, xxii, 17-20; *John*, xiii, 2-4.

12. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the Ordinances of the Gospel, unless he has been regularly baptized, called and come under the imposition of the hands of a Presbytery.—*Tim.* ii, 6-7; v, 21-22; *Titus*, i, 5; *Acts*, xiii, 2-3.

Rules of Decorum.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. After reading of the letters from the different churches of this Union, a Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a discretionary right to call to order at any time.

4. A member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.

5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and address the Moderator for permission to speak, and he, when thus addressed, shall signify his assent by naming the member, or otherwise.

6. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection. Every motion made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it; if there are two or more motions before the Association on the same subject, at the same time, the first motion shall be first in order.

7. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided on, or withdrawn, before another shall be offered.

8. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for the debates, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association on the subject; the members in the affirmative shall signify the same by saying "aye," and those in the negative by saying "no," except in cases which cannot thus be satisfactorily determined; in such case they shall be tested by rising to their feet. The Moderator to pronounce the decision before the standers resume their seats.

9. No member shall depart from the services of the Association without leave.

10. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject, without leave, nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject until the debates are gone through with.

11. The appellation of brother shall be used in the Association by the members in their address, one to another.

12. The names of members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

13. No member shall be tolerated in any practice that tends to interrupt the speaking.

14. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another member to his seat during the time, but he shall not vote on any question, unless the Association be equally divided.

Officers of the Ministerial Aid Society for next Year.

A. P. BUSH, PRESIDENT.

Vice-Presidents.

J. D. JOHNSON, J. HARPER, P. E. BALL, N. W. PRINCE.

Executive Board.

L. M. STONE, R. R. OSBORNE, J. P. LEE, E. H. LAMB.

J. W. HANSON, *Secretary.*

T. J. GARDNER, *Treasurer.*

MINUTES

OF THE

UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

THE members of the Association met in the house of worship of the Carrollton Baptist Church, on Saturday 22d September, 1860.

The Introductory Sermon was preached according to appointment, at 11 o'clock, A. M., by Elder J. C. Foster, from the text, Hebrews 12 : 1. 2. At the close of the sermon, prayer was offered by Elder M. T. Sumner, and a recess was had of one hour.

The delegates again assembled in the meeting house and proceeded to business. After singing, prayer was offered by Elder B. Manly, Sr. At the same hour Elder Charles Manly preached in the Methodist house of worship.

Brethren Z. L. Nabers and N. W. Prince read the letters from the churches and the names of delegates were enrolled.

Elder J. C. FOSTER was re-elected Moderator, and Elder A. M. HANKS re-elected Clerk.

On motion, Received Correspondence from sister Associations—From the Choctaw, Elijah Dupree, W. D. Dupree, with package of Minutes containing a printed letter of correspondence. From the Columbus, no messenger nor letter.

From the Tuscaloosa—Elders B. Manly, Sr., Charles Manly, Redmon Jones, and brethren W. P. Richardson, Gray Strickland, with a letter and package of minutes. The Moderator gave the right hand of fellowship to the messengers present, and cordially invited them to seats.

On motion, Elder M. T. Sumner, Cor. Sec. of the Domestic and Indian Mission Board of Southern Baptist Convention, Marion, Ala., Elder H. Talbird, Pres. Howard College, and brother W. W. Paschal of the Clinton church, Bigby Association, together with all other visiting brethren, were cordially invited to seats and to participate in our deliberations.

On motion, a door was opened for unassociated churches to unite with this body.

On motion, the following Committees were appointed :

ON THE ORDER OF BUSINESS—W. F. Spragins, C. Bain, D. Duncan, and the Moderator and Clerk.

ON PREACHING—J. D. Johnson, W. W. Spragins, J. W. Hanson, J. H. Robertson, Pastor and Deacons of Carrollton Baptist church.

ON FINANCE—J. T. Gardner, Thomas H. Haynie.

ON NOMINATIONS—L. M. Stone, H. B. Chappelle, N. W. Prince.

ON CORRESPONDENCE—W. J. West, M. F. Wakefield, J. Sanders, jr.

ON DOCUMENTS—J. T. Lang, M. L. Stansel, J. W. Taylor.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS—G. M. Lyles, Jesse Thomas, J. N. Acker, A. C. Baker.

ON THE STATE OF RELIGION IN THE CHURCHES—J. W. Taylor, Richard Wilkins, W. R. Scott, J. Parker.

ON MISSIONS—H. B. Chappelle, W. F. Spragins, A. A. Spillar.

ON TEMPERANCE—M. L. Stansel, W. P. Sullivan, J. Harper, U. E. Allen.

The Committee on Preaching reported: Preaching at the Methodist church to-night by Elder M. T. Sumner. Elder Charles Bain preach the Annual Missionary Sermon to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock, in the Baptist meeting house, and a collection be taken up in aid of Foreign Missions. At the same hour preaching at the Methodist church by Elder H. Talbird.

In the afternoon, Elder B. Manly preach in the Baptist Church at 2 o'clock, and at the same hour, Elder M. T. Sumner preach at the Methodist church. At night, preaching at the Baptist church by Elder Charles Manly, and at the same hour, preaching by Elder R. Jones at the Methodist church.

On motion, adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday morning. Prayer by Elder H. Talbird.

The Lord's Day.

The worship of God was conducted in accordance with the report of the Committee on Preaching. The congregation at both houses of worship was very large, and the preaching listened to with profound attention. The collection in aid of Foreign Missions at both the Baptist and Methodist churches amounted to \$42,90, and for Indian Missions at the Methodist church \$20, in all \$62,90.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Association met, and after singing, prayer was offered by Elder James Deloach.

On motion, the report of the Committee on the Order of Business was read; adopted.

The names of delegates were called and absentees noted. Read and approved the minutes of Saturday.

Invited visiting brethren to seats and to participate in the deliberations of the Association.

The Constitution and Rules of Decorum were read.

The Historical Sketches of the churches were read.

The Committee on Missions made a report, which was adopted ; and after an address by Elder M. T. Sumner, on the subject of the report, a collection was taken from the members of the Association and friends of missions present, amounting to \$121.

REPORT ON MISSIONS

The subject of Missions finds its origin in the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." To his own people then does He look to carry out his will, that the gospel shall be preached in all the world. This we have to some extent endeavored to effect, but we fear, not as our ability would justify. Shame, that we should have done so little. It should be our determination to do more in future. The Board of Foreign Missions have steadily pursued their work in furnishing to the extent of the means placed in their hands the word of life to the benighted heathen. They have recently re-inforced their missions in China and Africa, and have opened new stations in Japan and Brazil. They will therefore, need larger contributions from the churches in future.

The Domestic and Indian Mission Board are prosecuting their work with encouraging success. During the past year, they have had a larger number of missionaries in the field than at any former period. The destitution of the country makes it incumbent upon the Board to appropriate larger sums of money for the support of missionaries occupying the destitute portions of our common country ; and therefore, it is necessary that the churches should make regular and liberal annual contributions to these objects. We recommend the following resolutions :

Resolved, That we deem it the duty of the churches to support more vigorously our mission operations.

Resolved, That we recommend to our brethren of the churches to send up by their delegates to the next meeting of the Association funds for the great mission enterprise ; and especially contribute to sustain the Mission in the Indian Territory, so much blessed of God.

Resolved, That we recommend to the churches of this Association to set apart the last week in July, 1861, as a suitable time to present the subject of Missions to the people, and take up collections to aid in sending the gospel into all lands.

Returned correspondence to sister Associations :

To the Choctaw ; To meet at Cooksville, Miss., on Saturday before the 3d Sabbath in October, 1860 ; Dabney Ducan, J. T. Lang, M. F. Wakefield.

To the Columbus ; To meet with Siloam church, 24 miles West of

[Continued on page 10.]

UNION BAPTIST

DELEGATES.

CHURCHES. | COUNTIES.

Ordained Ministers in SMALL CAPITALS.
 Licentiates in *italics*.
 Absentees marked with a star, *

Baptized,

FIRST DISTRICT.	Bethlehem, Pickens co	D. O. BAIRD,*	W. Vail, W. W. Welch,*	10
	Arbor Spring, "	James Allen, W. Sentell, W. C. Clegg,*		9
	Liberty, "	JAMES DELOACH, R. WILKINS, H. H. Sanders,		5
	Mt. Pleasant, "	H. Strickland, W. A. Mitchell, J. Hill,*		6
	Fellowship, "	JESSE THOMAS, J. T. Gardner, J. D. Jonson,		
	Ebenezer, "	WILLIAM R. SCOTT, F. D. Smith, S. Hildreth,		12
	Providence, "	J. S. Wooton, P. Kilpatrick, L. Randall,		1
	South Carolina, "	D. DUNCAN, W. F. SPRAGINS, W. P. Smarr,		25
	Mineral Spring, "	G. M. LYLES, J. A. Duncan, W. C. Abram,		
	Oak Ridge, "	J. P. Lee, J. M. Copeland, N. N. Davis,		14
	Spring Hill, "	Josiah Harper, A. C. Baker, James P. Harper,		12
	Hebron, "	J. N. ACKER, J. F. Cockrell, J. B. Acker,		9
	Big Creek, "	A. A. Spillar, W. W. Spragins, T. H. Haynie,		17
	Cross Roads, "	U. E. Allen, J. H. Taylor, W. S. Bryan,		14
	Pickensville, "	W. J. West, M. F. Wakefield, J. T. Lang,		18
	Marrollton, "	H. Shepherd, L. M. Stone, M. L. Stansel,		16
	Zion, "	J. W. Taylor, P. E. Ball, H. B. Chappelle,		7
	Unity, "	A. M. HANKS, J. W. Hanson, E. Boon,		22
	Mount Zion, "	B. C. Walker, W. Stuckey, Powell Baker,		5
	Forest, "	W. Slaughter, A. J. Slaughter,* J. O. King,*		
	Shiloh, "	J. Franklin, J. R. Smith, D. B. Franklin,*		
	Beulah, Greene county	M. P. SMITH,* A. Hardy, E. H. Lamb,		
	Bethel, Tuscaloosa co.	CHARLES BAIN, W. E. DUNN, G. A. Stewart,		
	New Hope, "	J. H. Robertson, T. P. Robertson, J. Sanders, jr.		17
	Zion, "	ISLAM PARKER,* JACOB PARKER, A. Jordan,		
	Grant's Creek, "	J. C. FOSTER, N. W. Prince, W. P. Sullivan,		18

ASSOCIATION.

STATISTICS.

										MONTHLY MEETINGS,...	PASTORS.	POST OFFICES.
Grand Total,.....	Colored Members,.....	Total White Members,	White Females,.....	White Males,.....	Deceased,.....	Excluded,.....	Dismissed by Letter,...	Restored,.....	Discontinued by Letter			
87	24	63	40	23	1	3	1	1	8	4	DUKE O. BAIRD,	Palmetto, Ala.
45	...	45	31	14	1	1	1	1	...	2	JASPER N. ACKER,	Reform, "
49	4	45	27	18	2	2	2	2	3	4	JAMES DELOACH,	Reform, "
42	...	42	27	15	1	1	1	1	8	1	WM. R. SCOTT,	Gordo, "
72	27	45	27	18	2	4	1	2	2	1	JESSE THOMAS,	Reform, "
58	2	56	37	19	3	1	3	...	7	3	WM. R. SCOTT,	Carrollton, "
45	18	27	19	8	...	...	...	...	1	3	G. M. LYLES,	Providence, "
106	27	79	51	28	1	1	1	1	1	3	WM. F. SPRAGINS,	Yorkville, "
34	3	31	18	13	1	...	...	...	...	1	G. M. LYLES,	Yorkville, "
49	14	35	18	17	1	1	1	...	11	2	G. M. LYLES,	Pickensville "
35	7	28	18	10	2	...	...	...	3	4	G. M. LYLES,	" "
56	10	46	30	16	2	11	...	...	5	3	D. DUNCAN,	Carrollton, "
128	29	99	66	33	1	22	1	...	...	2	W. F. SPRAGINS,	Carrollton, "
55	12	43	20	23	2	8	2	2	1	1	JAMES DELOACH,	Pickensville "
56	10	46	21	25	...	3	...	...	4	1	J. G. NASH,	" "
57	10	47	30	17	2	5	1	2	7	2	J. G. NASH,	Carrollton, "
141	67	74	46	28	2	11	1	2	3	1	WM. F. SPRAGINS,	Pickensville "
178	86	92	51	41	...	7	8	...	1	1	A. M. HANKS,	Olney, "
77	4	73	43	30	1	7	...	...	2	3	CHARLES BAIN,	Bridgeville, "
128	72	56	38	18	2	2	...	...	1	2	M. P. SMITH,	Pleasant Grove
26	...	26	15	11	3	3	...	...	1	4	CHARLES BAIN,	" "
127	23	104	64	40	2	9	2	2	2	1	M. P. SMITH,	Union, Ala.,
75	5	70	49	21	7	21	...	...	6	2	CHARLES BAIN,	Cushing, "
102	36	66	41	25	1	4	1	1	3	4	M. P. SMITH,	Jena, "
44	2	42	21	21	...	2	...	...	7	2	ISHAM PARKER,	Pleasant Grove
204	111	93	53	40	3	24	2	3	5	1	J. C. FOSTER,	Foster's, Ala.
933	351	582	382	265	72	899	1471	603	2074			

Columbus, Miss., Saturday before the 2d Sabbath in September, 1861; W. F. Spragins, D. Duncan, A. M. Hanks, W. W. Spragins, N. N. Davis.

To the Tuscaloosa ; Meets with Hephzibah church, 28 miles East of Tuscaloosa, Ala., Saturday before the 3d Sabbath in September, 1861 ; Jesse Thomas, J. N. Acker, G. M. Lyles, A. A. Spillar.

On motion, adjourned for one hour. Prayer by Elder J. N. Acker.

AFTERNOON, 2 o'clock.

The Association met. A hymn was sung, and a prayer was offered by Elder G. M. Lyles.

The reports of Union Meetings were read, and appointments made for the ensuing year.

First District ; to meet with Bethlehem church on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in July, 1861. Introductory Sermon by Elder R. Wilkins. To be attended by G. M. Lyles, J. N. Acker, William F. Spragins, Dabney Duncan.

Second District ; meets with South Carolina church on Friday before the 3d Sabbath in July, 1861. Introductory Sermon by Elder J. N. Acker, ; alternate, Dabney Duncan. Missionary Sermon by Elder W. F. Spragins ; alternate, Elder G. M. Lyles. Visiting brethren, William R. Scott, J. Thomas, J. Deloach, A. M. Hanks, H. B. Chappelle.

Third District ; to be held with Enon church on Friday before the 1st Sabbath in August, 1861. Introductory Sermon by Elder J. W. Taylor ; alternate, Elder A. M. Hanks. To be attended by W. F. Spragins, George M. Lyles, Jasper N. Acker, A. A. Spillar.

Fourth District ; meets with Benlah church on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in August, 1861. Introductory Sermon by Elder M. P. Smith. Missionary Sermon on Sabbath by Elder C. Bain ; to be attended by Elder D. Duncan.

The report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools was read ; adopted.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We have noticed with a degree of satisfaction the encouraging prospects presented by some few of the letters to the Association in regard to Sabbath schools. We lament that there is not a deeper interest felt throughout all our bounds on this important subject. We recommend to all the churches to encourage a more general interest in this very important work from the following considerations : The Sabbath School is a part of the means of supplying the churches with intelligent, consistent and useful members, as well as able and efficient ministers. We must look to the young for accessions to our churches, as but comparatively few conversions take place among the old. The churches should engage more fully in this work. Members should become teachers, not only for the purpose of improving the young in the knowledge of the Scriptures, but advancing themselves in divine knowledge and holiness. We should be ready as we pray for the conver-

sion of the world, to labor also for it. And in no department of christian effort, can so much good be accomplished by church members, as in that, of training the young and tender mind in the paths of virtue and piety. The Sabbath School has been instrumental in giving to the church some of her ablest ministers—some of her most zealous and devoted missionaries of the cross in heathen lands. It is a fact well known, that those churches most eminent for piety and prosperity have not neglected the Sabbath school. We recommend, therefore, that every church within our bounds which has not a permanent Sabbath School, to establish one without delay.

Respectfully submitted,

G. M. LYLES, Chm.

Suspended the order of business to hear an address from Elder H. Talbird in relation to the claims upon us of the beneficiaries of Howard College.

The report of the Committee on the state of Religion was read ; adopted.

REPORT ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

In looking over the Minutes of the last Association, we find in the "Report on the State of Religion in the Churches" that a "sad lukewarmness" then prevailed.

The "diligent and persevering prayer," to which the churches in that report were exhorted, we believe, was made and answered. For it is our privilege to bring you more cheering intelligence. A majority of the churches composing this body, as appears from their correspondence, have been blessed with a gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit, by whose enlivening influence this lukewarmness has, to a great extent, at least, been caused to disappear, and hundreds have been made to receive "the truth as it is in Jesus" and are to-day "rejoicing in hope of the glory of God." Since your last meeting there have been received by baptism, within the bounds of the Association, two hundred and thirty-seven members, making one hundred and twenty-nine more than were received during the last associational year. Considering the worth of the immortal soul, and that its salvation is, or should be, the ultimate design of all our christian labors, how should our hearts rejoice and overflow with praises to Him who has so wonderfully blessed us ; and with what increased faith and zeal should we return to our respective labors.

We rejoice also to call your attention to that "brotherly love" mentioned in the letters as existing in a majority of the churches and which we deem, by no means, an insignificant or unfavorable index to the state of that *Religion*, whose origin was *Love*, and whose end is *Peace*.

In conclusion, dear brethren, we feel that thanks should be rendered the Bestower of these blessings, and would earnestly recommend that we be yet more "diligent and persevering" in prayer to Him who has graciously invited us to prove Him. Then will the next re-

port made to you on this subject contain still more cheering news from our sister churches and associations, "For He is faithful that promised." Respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. TAYLOR, Chairman.

The Committee on Nominations read the following report, which was adopted :

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

The next Introductory Sermon will be preached by Elder Jesse G. Nash ; W. F. Spragins, alternate. Missionary Sermon on Sabbath at 11 o'clock, A. M., by Elder John C. Foster, and a collection taken up in aid of Foreign Missions ; Elder Jesse Thomas, alternate. Subject of the next Circular Letter—"The duty and importance of Family Worship." The letter to be written by brother M. L. Stansel.

LEWIS M. STONE, Chairman.

Appointed delegates to the Baptist State Convention, to be held in Tuskegee on Friday before the 2d Sabbath in November, 1860 : J. C. Foster, N. W. Prince, C. Bain, A. M. Hanks, W. F. Spragins, A. P. Bush, G. M. Lyles, J. N. Acker, J. T. Stinson, R. Chapman, Jr., D. Duncan, W. P. Sullivan.

The Committee on Correspondence reported. The report was adopted.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was read ; adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Can any pen and ink picture set forth in their true light of terrible deformity the woes and evils of intemperance ? Where is the artist who can approximate the reality of the horrible story ? The imagination in its utmost stretch falters and recoils far short of the dark and dismal shades that go to make up the truth of the miserable picture. Poverty, and want, and squalidity, and shame ; health destroyed, hope blighted, affections crushed, God dethroned in the heart ; home an arid waste, brotherly love, filial piety, parental devotion, all dead ; the tongue that has been taught to lisp words of love and prayer familiar only with curses and imprecations and the dialect of fiends ; the face that was once radiant with the smiles of innocence and joy distorted with the hideousness of drunken debauchery ; cheeks of beauty furrowed by tears wrung by anguish from breaking hearts ; all these are mere incidents and shades of color that go to make up the perfect picture ; and when the artist comes to illumine it with the glares that ascend from the fires of the infernal world, he is overwhelmed with the thought that the horrible picture falls far short of the more horrible reality.

And now, what shall be done to arrest the giant strides of the accursed evil ? The strong arm of the law has been appealed to in vain. A subtle poison taints the moral atmosphere in which temperance is attempted to be enforced by law. The mind of man becomes narrow and contracted when he is no longer his own master ; his ac-

tions are meaningless when stripped of the beauty of choice ; his sympathy for others grows dead when he has no longer the power to assist them in encountering moral trials, and to gain and give the strength of mutual counsel. Those who advocate prohibition prophesy that as men cease to drink and become sober they will go to church. And what will they find when they get there ? Is the faith of the churches of christendom so warm, their words so full of meaning, their appeals to the conscience so direct and potent that they can afford to be guided by a law, which, as far as one law can, deadens responsibility and obliterates the distinction between good and evil.

No mere human law can save men from the evils of intemperance. It has been appealed to in vain. Nothing but the grace of God, which is sufficient unto all things, and an enlightened Public Opinion can save them.

We therefore recommend, in conclusion, that the Ministers of this Association, reason more frequently upon temperance and the judgment to come, like the great Apostle of the Gentiles, before whom monarchs trembled, and that the churches exercise rigid discipline in all cases of intemperance among their members.

The Committee instruct me to report the following Resolution :

Resolved, That the Ministers of this Association are earnestly requested to deliver discourses on the subject of Temperance in their respective churches, during the ensuing Associational year.

M. L. STANSEL, Chairman.

Report of the Committee on Finance read and adopted.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Received from the Churches for printing Minutes,	\$44 75
" " " " the Association,	41 25
" " " " Foreign Missions,	\$29 88
Collection at the Bap. Church for " "	22 90
" " Methodist Church, " "	20 00
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" " " " Indian Mission,	20 00
" Monday in the Association, " "	121 00
Received from the Churches for " "	303 80
" " Union Meeting at Oak Grove, "	15 00
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" " Churches for Elder W. E. Dunn,	22 05
Collection on Monday for " " " "	77 95
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" on Sabbath from col. people for African Mission,	1 55
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Respectfully submitted,	\$720 13

J. T. GARDNER,

T. H. HAYNIE.

Appointed the next session of the Association to be held with the

Providence church, Pickens County, Ala., commencing on Saturday before the 4th Lord's day in September, 1861.

The report of Elder W. E. Dunn, Missionary of the Association was read; adopted. Contributions were received from the delegates present, amounting to \$77.95, to make up the salary of \$100 promised brother Dunn at the last session of the Association.

REPORT OF ELDER W. E. DUNN.

Your Missionary begs leave to report, that the labor performed in destitute places during the past year, amounts to forty-six Sermons delivered, and seven hundred and sixteen miles travelled.

Respectfully submitted by your servant,
W. E. DUNN.

Appointed the Clerk to superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes and receive out of the Association fund twenty-five dollars for his services.

On motion, the following Committees were appointed, and to report at our next Annual Session.

ON MISSIONS—H. B. Chappelle, J. W. Taylor, J. W. Hanson.

ON EDUCATION—L. M. Stone, M. L. Stansel, A. M. Hanks.

ON TEMPERANCE—N. W. Prince, J. Sanders, Jr., C. Bain.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS—W. F. Spragins, G. M. Lyles, D. Duncan.

The report of the Treasurer of the Ministerial Aid Society was read; adopted.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

I would respectfully ask leave to report to the Association, that I have in my hands notes due the ministerial aid society of the Union Baptist Association, amounting to three thousand two hundred and seventy-five dollars. Interest on the same to date, two hundred and fifty-nine dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

Sept. 24th, 1860.

J. T. GARDNER, Treasurer

On motion, adjourned to candle light to-night. Prayer by Elder Jesse Thomas.

EVENING SESSION, 7 o'clock.

The Association met. Prayer by Elder C. B. Sanders.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Clerk have printed with the Minutes, the Constitution, Articles of Faith, and Rules of Decorum of this body.

Ordered, That the Treasurer add five dollars and seventy-five cents to the minute fund, and pay the remainder of the Association fund, (10.50) to Elder J. N. Ackers and W. R. Scott, our corresponding messengers to the last session of the Tuscaloosa Baptist Association.

The following preamble and resolutions were read and adopted.

Whereas, we have learned that the means of the support of the Beneficiaries of the Baptist State Convention, in Howard College have providentially failed, and whereas, it is the privilege of our churches to provide means to supply this deficiency, therefore,

Resolved, That we affectionately invite our churches to give this subject their prayerful attention ; and see whether they cannot contribute something of their abundance to assist these young brethren in preparing themselves for greater usefulness in the ministry of the Gospel.

Resolved, That the Clerks of the several churches of this Association are requested to write out and send to the next session " Historical Sketches " of their respective churches, with a view to publication in pamphlet form.

Resolved, That the several churches composing this body are requested to send up to the next session, additional sums with the minute fund to defray the expense of publishing the 'Historical Sketches.'

Resolved, That we return our sincere thanks to the members of Carrollton Church, and the citizens of Carrollton generally, for their kind and very generous hospitality extended to all, who have attended on the present session of this Association. And that we also tender our grateful acknowledgements to our Methodist brethren for the use of their house of worship during the meeting.

On motion, adjourned. The delegates joined in singing, after which, prayer was offered by Elder M. T. Sumner.

JOHN C. FOSTER, Moderator.

A. M. HANKS, Clerk.

A. M. HANKS, in account with the Union Baptist Association.

DR.

To cash received from Committee on Finance,	\$720 12
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By cash paid for printing Minutes	\$50 50
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By cash paid M. T. Sumner, for Ind. Missions,	444 80
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By cash sent to Bap. State Convention, viz :	
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Foreign Missions,	\$72 78
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Indian Missions,	15 00
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African Missions,	8 55 89 33
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By cash paid G. A. Stewart for W. E. Dunn,	100 00
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By cash paid J. N. Acker and W. R. Scott,	10 50
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By cash paid Clerk this year,	25 00
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	\$720 12
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Contributions for Associational and Benevolent Objects.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	Minutes,	Association,	Indian Missions,	Foreign Missions,	Missions in the Associ'n,	African Missions,	Aggregate Amount,
Bethlehem, Pickens co.		\$1,50	\$1,50	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,00
Arbor Spring, "		1,00	1,00	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,00
Liberty, "		1,00	1,00	5,00	.....	.....	.....	7,00
Mt. Pleasant, "		1,00	1,00	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,00
Fellowship, "		1,50	1,00	15,00	.....	.....	.....	17,50
Ebenezer, "		1,50	1,50	20,00	.....	.....	.....	23,00
Providence, "		1,00	1,00	.....	.....	3,00	.....	5,00
South Carolina, "		2,00	2,00	40,05	.....	.....	.....	44,05
Mineral Spring, "		1,50	1,00	8,00	.....	.....	.....	10,50
Oak Ridge, "		1,50	1,50	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,00
Spring Hill, "		2,50	2,50	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,00
Hebron, "		1,50	1,50	5,00	.....	.....	.....	8,00
Big Creek, "		2,50	2,50	30,50	.....	.....	.....	35,50
Cross Roads, "		1,50	1,50	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,00
Pickensville, "		2,00	1,50	40,00	.....	.....	.....	43,50
Carrollton, "		2,00	2,00	4,00	1,00	.....	.....	9,00
Enon, "		2,00	2,00	30,00	3,00	.....	.....	37,00
Unity, "		3,00	2,00	28,00	.....	.....	.....	33,00
Mount Zion, "		2,00	2,00	3,75	.....	.....	.....	7,75
Forest, "		1,00	1,00	8,75	.....	.....	.....	10,75
Shiloh, "		1,00	1,00	2,00	.....	.....	.....	4,00
Beulah, Greene county		2,00	2,00	8,90	13,00	4,45	.....	30,35
Bethel, Tuscaloosa co.		1,50	1,50	5,75	2,88	14,60	.....	26,23
New Hope, "		2,00	2,25	29,10	.....	.....	.....	33,35
Zion, "		1,50	1,50	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,00
Grant's Creek, "		3,25	2,00	20,00	10,00	.....	.....	35,25
Collection on Sabbath,		20,00	42,90	.....	1,55	64,45
Collection on Monday,		121,00	.....	77,95	.....	178,95
Union Meeting 2d Dis.		15,00	.....	.....	.....	15,00
		44,75	41,25	459,80	72,78	100,00	1,55	720,13

NAMES OF BAPTIST MINISTERS

IN THIS ASSOCIATION, WITH THEIR POST OFFICES.

JAMES DELOACH,.....	Reform, Pickens county, Ala.		
RICHARD WILKINS,.....	Reform, " " "		
DUKE O. BAIRD,.....	Palmetto, " " "		
JESSE THOMAS,.....	Palmetto, " " "		
WM. R. SCOTT,.....	Carrollton, " " "		
C. B. SANDERS,.....	Carrollton, " " "		
JASPER N. ACKER,.....	Carrollton, " " "		
A. M. HANKS,.....	Pickensville, " " "		
JESSE G. NASH,.....	Pickensville, " " "		
JOHN W. TAYLOR,*.....	Pickensville, " " "		
JAMES M. LAND,*.....	Pickensville, " " "		
A. A. SPILLAR,*.....	Pickensville, " " "		
D. DUNCAN,.....	Yorkville, " " "		
WM. F. SPRAGINS,.....	Yorkville " " "		
G. M. LYLES,.....	Yorkville, " " "		
J. S. WOOTEN,*.....	Yorkville, " " "		
JOHN L. LYON,*.....	Yorkville, " " "		
ISHAM PARKER,.....	Pleasant Grove, " "		
JACOB PARKER,.....	Pleasant Grove, " "		
M. P. SMITH,.....	Union, Greene, " "		
CHARLES BAIN,.....	Knoxville, " " "		
J. C. FOSTER,.....	Foster's Tuscaloosa, " "		
JAMES TOOLE,.....	Foster's " " "		
J. D. CHANDLER,*.....	Jena, " " "		
W. E. DUNN,.....	Cushing, Tuscaloosa county, "		

ORDAINED MINISTERS,.....19

LICENTIATES,*.....6